

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /059 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2499
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE
USMISSION USNATO
HQ 3 AF RAF MILDENHALL IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LONDON 01484

DEFENSE FOR OASD/ISA/EUR REGION; OASD/ISA/FMR; OASD/PA
AND CSAF/OI
E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO MILI UK GW
SUBJ: A-10 DEPLOYMENT TO EUROPE

REF: (A) STATE 22175, (B) STATE 18109, C) CINCEUR
1424 DTG 231240Z JAN, (D) MACDONALD JAN 26 TELCON
WITH OASD/ISA/EUR AND OASD/ISA/FMR

1. HOLTON, HEAD OF DS-8, MOD, INFORMED POL-MIL ATTACHE
AT ABOUT 1600 ON 26 JAN THAT MOD ANTICIPATED NEWS BREAK
ON A-10 DEPLOYMENT AND HENCE DECIDED TO ISSUE ITS OWN
STATEMENT AT 1715 HOURS YESTERDAY "IDENTICAL TO" WORDING
IN PARA 3 OF REFTEL C WITH DELETION OF SENTENCE,
"DISPOSITION OF THE F-40S NOW FLOWN BY THE 81ST TFW IS
STILL BEING WORKED OUT." ON BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION,
WE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED SITUATION TO DOD REF D.

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2. AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL A, WE QUOTE THE FULL UK
STATEMENT: QUOTE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED THAT
THE FIRST OVERSEAS WING OF U.S. AIR FORCE A-10 AIRCRAFT
WILL BE STATIONED AT RAF BENTWATERS AND RAF WOODBRIDGE,
SUFFOLK, U.K.
THE DEPLOYMENT, WHICH WILL BEGIN IN EARLY 1979,

WILL INVOLVE A TOTAL OF 108 AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO THE 81ST TACTICAL FIGHTER WING (TFW). THE INTRODUCTION OF THE A-10S WILL NOT LEAD TO ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF U.S. SERVICE PERSONNEL IN THE AREA. THE A-10 IS A TWIN ENGINE, SUBSONIC AIRCRAFT, USED IN A CLOSE AIR SUPPORT ROLE, AND ITS PRESENCE IN THE UK WILL HELP TO STRENGTHEN NATO'S CAPABILITY FOR CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE IN EUROPE. END QUOTE.

3. MOD IS FULLY AWARE ABOUT SENSITIVITY OF FRG ASPECT OF A-10 DEPLOYMENT AND WILL NOT TOUCH ON IT EXCEPT IN CONTEXT OF PREVIOUSLY AGREED LANGUAGE.

4. APART FROM INFORMATION GARNERED FROM REF D, WE STILL HAVE NO CABLED INSTRUCTION CONCERNING ANNOUNCEMENT AND QS AND AS. WE PASSED TO MOD NEW LANGUAGE FOR A-4 (REFTEL C) WHICH HOLTON CONSIDERS IS AN "IMPROVEMENT".

5. HOLTON REGRETS NEED FOR LAST-MINUTE PUSH BUT SAID MAKING ANNOUNCEMENT COB YESTERDAY WAS NECESSARY TO PRECLUDE TROUBLE AND TO LESSEN NEWSWORTHINESS OF THE MATTER. WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY NATIONAL NEWSPAPER TREATMENT OF MOD ANNOUNCEMENT YET, ALTHOUGH HOLTON SAID IT HAS BEEN PICKED UP LOCALLY. MOD IS PLEASED THAT THEIR ANNOUNCEMENT ALLOWED ISSUE TO BE PLAYED IN LOW KEY.

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6. ACTION REQUESTED: CONFIRMATION OF APPROVAL OF PROPOSED QS AND AS WITH CHANGE TO A-4, REFTEL C.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY PLANS
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Draft Date: 27 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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